

Marine Life Protection Act Update

August 15, 2008

California Department of
Fish and Game

Blue Ribbon Task Force, North Central Coast process

- **Susan Golding, Chair**
(President and CEO, The Golding Group)
- **William Anderson**
(President and CEO, Westrec Marinas)
- **Don Benninghoven**
(retired Executive Director, League of California Cities)
- **Meg Caldwell**
(Professor, Stanford Law School; former Chair, California Coastal Commission)
- **Catherine Reheis-Boyd**
(CEO, Western States Petroleum Association)

California Fish and Game Commission

- **Richard Rogers, President**
(Chairman of Board, Pacific Earth Resources)
- **Cindy Gustafson, Vice President**
(Assistant General Manager, Tahoe City Public Utility District)
- **Jim Kellogg**
(International Representative, United Association of Journeyman and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry)
- **Michael Sutton**
(Vice President, Center for the Future of the Oceans, Monterey Bay Aquarium)
- **Daniel Richards**
(Owner, Coldwell Banker Commercial Inland Empire)

North Central Coast Process

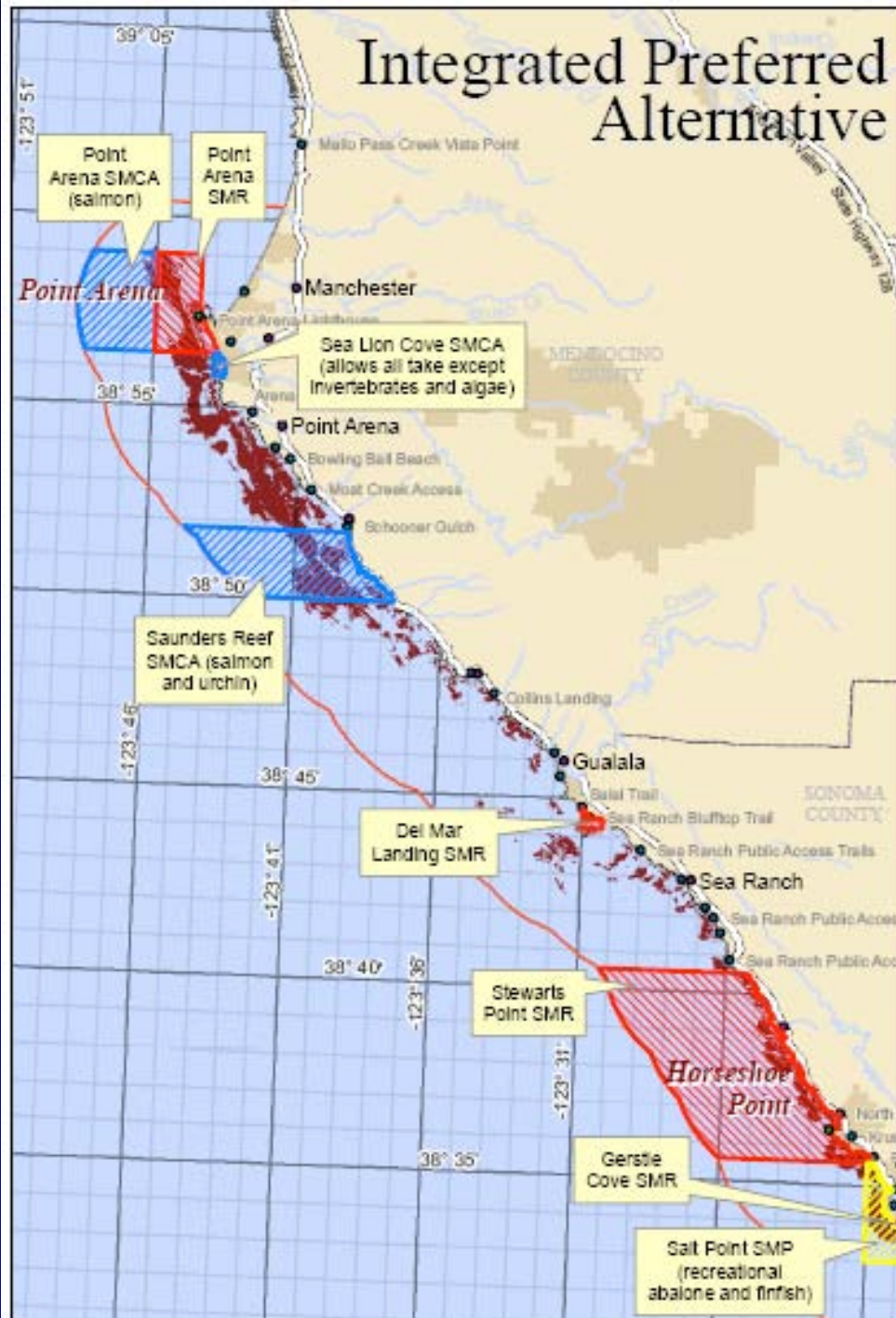
- June 11, 2008 joint meeting of the Blue Ribbon Task Force and the Fish and Game Commission
- Five MPA package proposals presented, including BRTF Integrated Preferred Alternative (IPA) and no-action alternative
- This meeting signaled the end of the Regional Stakeholder Group process and the beginning of the Commission regulatory and adoption process
- BRTF's IPA became Commission's preferred alternative

Preferred Alternative North Central Coast

(just north of Alder Creek to Pigeon Point)

- 22 MPAs totaling 156 square miles
- Approx. 20% of state waters
- 11 State Marine Reserves (88.5 square miles)
- 2 State Marine Parks
- 9 State Marine Conservation Areas
- 2 State Marine Recreational Management Areas (allow waterfowl hunting only)
- 6 Special Closures (limits disturbance to marine birds and mammals)

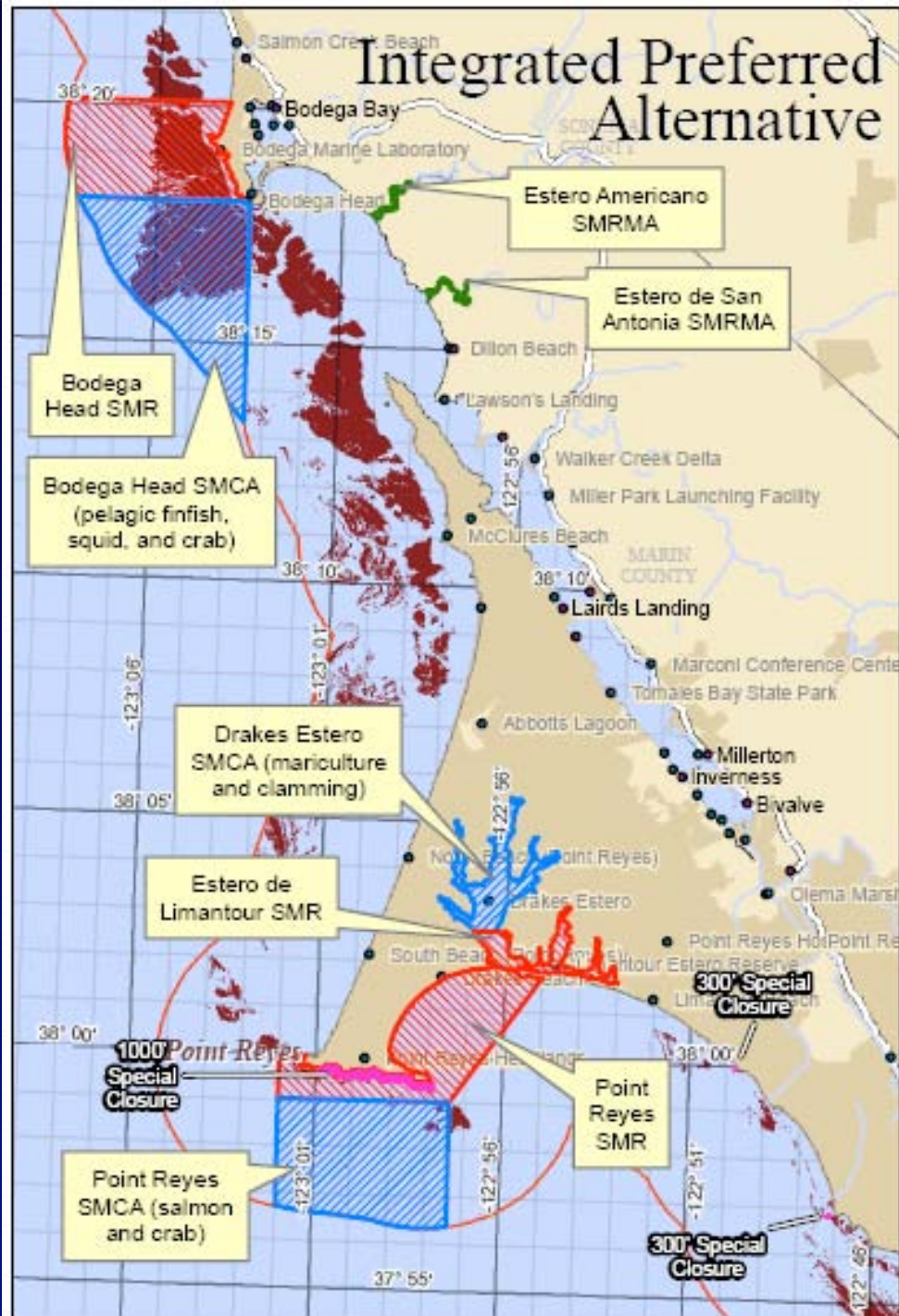
Integrated Preferred Alternative



Integrated Preferred Alternative



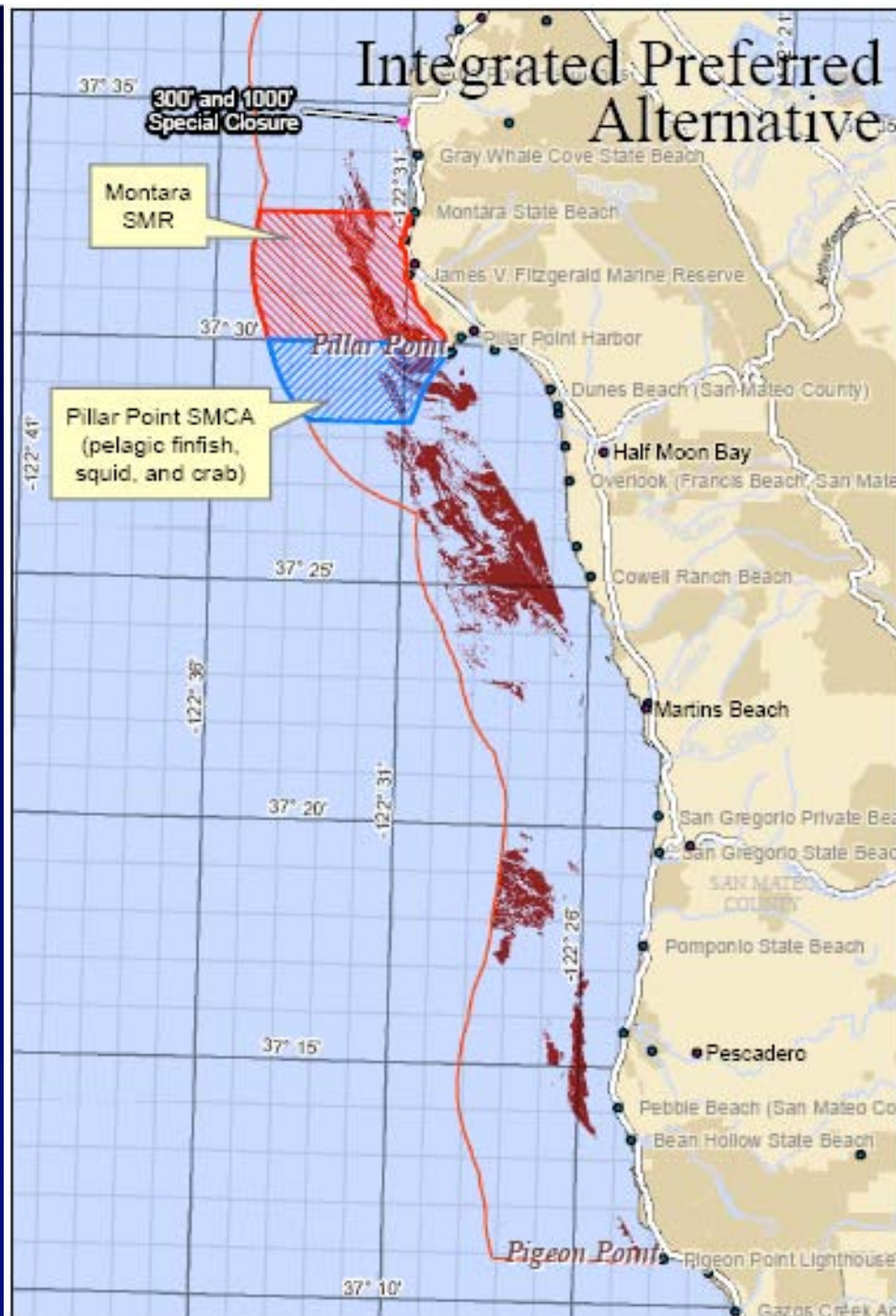
Integrated Preferred Alternative



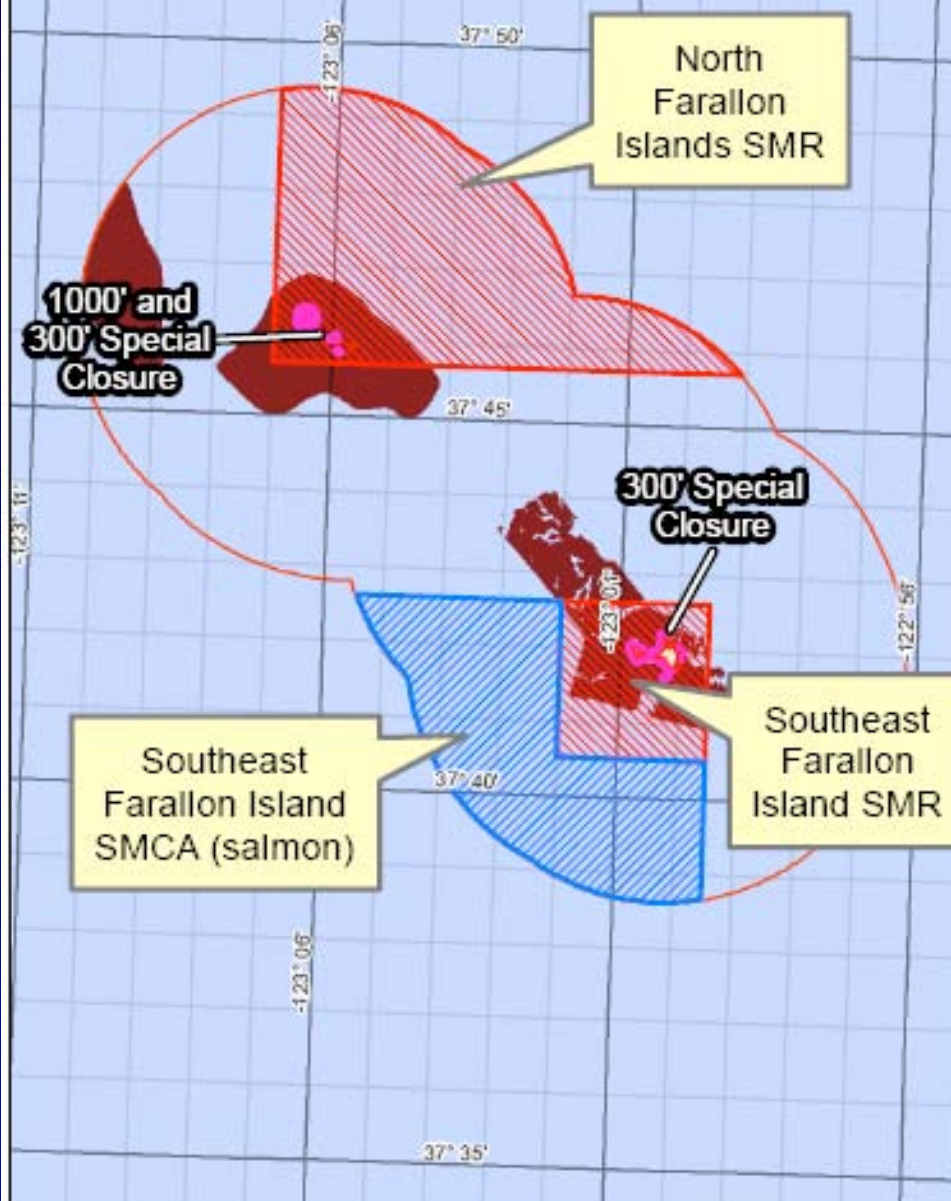
Integrated Preferred Alternative



Integrated Preferred Alternative



Integrated Preferred Alternative



Next Steps

- Initial Statement of Reasons for four MPA proposals is being drafted
- Proposed regulatory language for preferred alternative is being drafted
- Commission will schedule three public meetings: Sep, Oct/Nov, Feb
- Adoption of an MPA package likely will occur in February
- Draft EIR will be published for public comment at the end of October 2008.
- MPA monitoring plan being developed for North Central Coast MPAs. Baseline data collection to begin in early 2009.

South Coast BRTF

- Don Benninghoven, Chair
- Susan Golding
- William Anderson
- Meg Caldwell
- Catherine Reheis-Boyd
- Jane Pisano, President and Director of LA County Museum of Natural History
- Gregory Schem, President and CEO of Harbor Real Estate Group

South Coast Region MLPA Process

- 6 public “open house” workshops were held in late June and early July from Santa Barbara to San Diego
- Purpose: to provide public with MLPA background and process information
- Purpose: to serve as platform to solicit nominations for Regional Stakeholder Group and Science Advisory Team

South Coast Region MLPA Process

- regional profile being compiled by DFG and MLPA Initiative staff
- Nonprofit group Ecotrust will survey representative commercial and recreational fishermen in the south coast study region to obtain socioeconomic data.
- MLPA Initiative has contracted with two outreach and education specialists
- Program Manager John Ugoretz has moved to a new project within the Marine Region. Becky Ota is now the Acting Program Manager for Habitat Conservation in the Marine Region

South Coast Region MLPA Process

- RSG nomination period was June 20-July 18. More than 100 nominations were received; interviews underway
- RSG membership will be announced in late September
- RSG first meeting will be October 7-8
- Science Advisory Team nomination period was July 7-25
- First Science Advisory Team meeting September 15

Central Coast Study Region

Primary Monitoring Studies

Nearshore groundfish hook-and-line mark-recapture study at Año Nuevo SMR, Point Lobos SMR, Carmel Pinnacles SMR, Carmel Bay SMCA and adjacent fished areas, using CPFVs

Nearshore groundfish trap mark-recapture study at Point Lobos SMR and adjacent fished areas

ROV studies of fishes in multiple MPAs

Spot prawn and associated invertebrate species trap study at Soquel Canyon and Portuguese Ledge SMCAs (and possibly Big Creek SMR) and adjacent fished areas

Central Coast Study Region

Primary Monitoring Studies

Nearshore groundfish hook-and-line catch and release study at Point Buchon and Piedras Blancas SMRs and adjacent fished areas, using CPFVs

Diver surveys by Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) within 10 MPAs for nearshore fishes and conspicuous invertebrates

Reef Check diver surveys within 11 MPAs for nearshore finfish species size and density

Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network (MARINe) conducts intertidal monitoring within 7 MPAs

Additional Monitoring Studies

Moss Landing Marine Laboratory (MLML): bi-annual seabird surveys and annual harbor seal and sea otter surveys in Elkhorn Slough

Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve: surveys for shorebirds, water quality, gaper clams, ghost shrimp, and fat innkeeper worms in Elkhorn Slough

Morro Bay National Estuary Program/Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO): shorebird and eel grass surveys in Morro Bay

PRBO: shorebird surveys at Vandenberg Air Force Base

Additional Monitoring Studies

(inside and outside of MPAs)

Collaborative Study of Cetacean Abundance and the Pelagic Ecosystem (CSCAPE): annual surveys of marine mammals

United States Geological Survey (USGS): semi-annual surveys of sea otter population

Additional Monitoring Studies Recreational and Commercial Fishing

(inside and outside of MPAs)

California Recreational Fisheries Survey (CRFS): all shore- and boat-based fisheries for effort and catch

California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG): recreational beach fisheries for effort and catch

CDFG: all commercial fisheries through landing receipts; some commercial fisheries through logbooks (spot prawn, squid)